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A bit of blir'king Project Argus.

Panoptics Fill Yale Gallery

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It was run by a hybrid analog digital computer, built by Yale University art and architecture students, called "Project Argus—an Experiment in Light and Sound Environment," and premiered on Wednesday night, filling the exhibition gallery of the School of Architecture.

Electricity powers the cells in your body, snapping across the synapses in the nervous system thousands of times a second; and Project Argus—made from hundreds of fluorescent light bars, plywood, mammoth sheets of mirror mylar, with a computer for a heart—could only be called a living labyrinth.

More than 100 people groped and wandered through their reflections in walls of electrical ly-pulsating plastic, bombarded and bathed by the frenetic strobe light of hundreds of light tubes—in rows overhead, on the walls, bouncing back up from the shiny floor.

And it sounded all the while as if the multi-leveled Paul Rudolf Art and Architecture Building had been surrounded outside by a herd of technological dinosaurs, their growls and groans, whistles and moans echoing through your very

heart inside, driven by the blasts of light.

Not quite right: the electronic sound that came from everywhere, generated by audio oscillators, drove the lights—grasp one of the flickering tubes in your hand; feel it snapping and pinging your flesh in time with the pulse of sound.

Soon, even senior Yale professors were standing absent from the crowd, playing their hands and fingers in arcs through the air, chuckling at the stacato images—all they could see.

Even the plastic mylar sheets were wired for sound—with electrostatic oscillators, one of the students said—tremoring to electricity that you could only hear.

Lights you could hear, plastic that groaned, retinal after-images that eventually put your mind in a boat to float downstream: the product of PULSA: Yale Research Associates in the Arts, including Michael Cain, William Crosby, Patrick Clancy, William Duesing, Paul Fuge, Peter Kindlemann and David Rumsey.

Opened to the press and friends of the Yale Art and Architecture School Wednesday, Project Argus will be shown in a series of private and public exhibitions in late April and May.